

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

40. (new) A one-piece sheet metal can shell having a vertical center axis and a curled peripheral crown adapted to be double-seamed to an end portion of a formed sheet metal can body, said shell comprising

a circular center panel connected by a panel wall to an inner wall portion of a countersink having an outer wall portion and a generally U-shaped cross-sectional configuration,

a chuckwall having a lower wall portion connected to said outer wall portion of said countersink and an upper wall portion connected to an inner wall portion of said crown,

said upper wall portion of said chuckwall forming an angular break with said lower wall portion of said chuckwall,

said upper wall portion of said chuckwall having opposite end points defining in axial cross-section with said center axis a first angle substantially greater than a second angle defined by opposite end points of said lower wall portion of said chuckwall in axial cross-section with said center axis, with said second angle being greater than ten degrees,

said inner wall portion of said crown forming an angular junction with said upper wall portion of said chuckwall and extending from said junction at a third angle substantially less than said first angle in axial cross-section with said center axis,

said upper wall portion of said chuckwall projecting substantially above said center panel and having a horizontal radial width from said junction to said break greater than a horizontal radial width of said countersink adjacent the bottom of said countersink between said inner and outer wall portions of said countersink,

a radial width between said junction and said outer wall portion of said countersink adjacent the bottom of said countersink being greater than a radial width between said angular break and said inner wall portion of said countersink adjacent the bottom of said countersink, and

a straight line distance between said opposite end points of said upper wall portion of said chuckwall also being greater than said horizontal radial width of said countersink adjacent the bottom of said countersink.

41. (new) A shell as defined in claim 40 wherein a radial cross-sectional profile of said shell provides a clearance gap between said chuckwall of said shell and a corresponding said chuckwall of a second said shell supported thereabove by said crown of said shell.

42. (new) A shell as defined in claim 40 wherein said horizontal radial width of said upper wall portion of said chuckwall from said junction to said break is greater than a radial width between said break and said inner wall portion of said countersink adjacent the bottom of said countersink.

43. (new) A shell as defined in claim 40 wherein said upper wall portion of said chuckwall is substantially straight in axial cross-section from said break to said junction, and said break is located at substantially the same elevation above the bottom of said countersink as said center panel.

44. (new) A shell as defined in claim 40 wherein said lower wall portion of said chuckwall is substantially straight in axial cross-section and extends at an angle of about 15° relative to said center axis.